

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 821
By Chumney

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Jerry Johnson and the Kingsbury High School boys' basketball team, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AA State Champions.

WHEREAS, the memorable 1997-1998 Kingsbury High School basketball team was an exceptional basketball power, capturing the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division I, Class AA state championship; and

WHEREAS, throughout the year, Kingsbury was considered by many experts to be the best boys' basketball team in the Memphis Metropolitan area, and the Falcons were consistently ranked 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in the state; and

WHEREAS, the team compiled a remarkable 33-4 overall record, scored more than 100 points in 19 of 37 games, and averaged more than 97 points per game with notable wins over such Memphis powerhouses as Central (82-61), Hamilton (97-96), Northside (69-56), Raleigh-Egypt (125-70), Southside (101-61), Treadwell (104-64), and Kirby (113-80); and

WHEREAS, Kingsbury defeated McNairy Central in the sub-state playoffs, bested Bolivar (83-80) and Waverly Central (81-60) in the first and second rounds state tournament, and beat Knoxville Fulton (70-61) for the championship title; and

WHEREAS, Kingsbury set state tournament records for: "Most Steals by a Team for the Tournament" (51), "Most Steals by an Individual in One Game" (8, by Derek Lee) and "Most Steals by an Individual for the Tournament" (14, by Brian Kizzie); and

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WHEREAS, the state championship game marked the 98th career victory for Coach Jerry Johnson while at Kingsbury, as the Falcons defeated Knoxville Fulton (70-61). His overall record at Kingsbury is 98 wins and 33 losses in four years; and

WHEREAS, this is Coach Johnson's first state championship, which he accomplished in his first trip to the state tournament. His other stellar achievements include selections as: District 15AA "Coach of the Year" in 1995 and 1997; *The Memphis Commercial Appeal's* coveted 1998 Basketball "Coach of the Year", for all Class and Division levels in Memphis.

WHEREAS, his achievements in earlier years include selection as: 1993 "Teacher of the Year" by Junior Achievement for Memphis and the State of Tennessee; runner-up for the "National Teacher of the Year" (economics); "Educator of the Year" in 1994 by the Memphis Police Department; "Teacher of the Year" in 1994 by the Memphis Marketing Executives.

WHEREAS, Coach Johnson also served his country bravely as a member of the U. S. Armed Forces stationed in South Vietnam in 1969-1970; and

WHEREAS, the Kingsbury Falcons were fortunate to have the estimable services of Assistant Coach Troy Stanton and Coach Albert Johnson, Aide; and

WHEREAS, each player worked hard and made numerous sacrifices for the overall benefit of the team. The Falcon players included: Carlos Kimbro, Brian Kizzie, Derek Lee, Lowell Edkins, James Butler, Clyde Wade, Jerry Jackson, Chris Mickey, Carlos Crutchfield, Dante Blake, Ron Harvey, A. L. Thornton, Travis Mull, Karlos Mungen, and Calvin Rooks; and

WHEREAS, those players receiving individual awards for their time and efforts this season include: Brian Kizzie, college choice: Colorado, who was chosen All-Shelby Metro by the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, Coaches All-District 15AA, All-Tournament Most Valuable Player for District 15AA, All-Region VIII, All-State Tournament, and All-State; Carlos Kimbro, college choice: Louisville, who was selected All-Shelby Metro by the *Commercial Appeal*, Coaches All-District 2nd Team, All-Tournament-District 15AA, All-Region VIII, All-State Tournament, and All-State; Travis Mull, college choice: undecided, who was chosen All-Shelby-

Metro by the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, All-Tournament-District 15AA, All-Region VIII, and All-State Tournament; A. L. Thornton, college choice; Drury, who was selected All-Region VIII Tournament, and All-State Tournament. Lowell Edkins and Clyde Wade, who were included on the All-District Academic Team; and

WHEREAS, Kian Jones and Jason Reeves were the team's hard-working managers, while Nicole Minor, Wanda Stubbs, and Tarnarsha Humphries were the team's dedicated statisticians; and

WHEREAS, Principal Robert Wilson and Assistant Principals Charlie Reese, Patricia Toarmina, and Mike Watson has been very supportive of their team; and

WHEREAS, the Falcons' championship drive was significantly aided by their enthusiastic fans and cheerleaders: Shameka Keaton, Stephanie Coe, Takiyah Calhoun, Chauka Pointdexter, and Sheena Chambers; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause in our deliberations to honor and congratulate Coach Jerry Johnson and the 1997-1998 Kingsbury High School boys basketball team on their outstanding championship season; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Jerry Johnson and the 1997-1998 Memphis Kingsbury High School boys basketball team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division I, Class AA State Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution, with this final resolving clause omitted, be presented to the school and to each person named above.